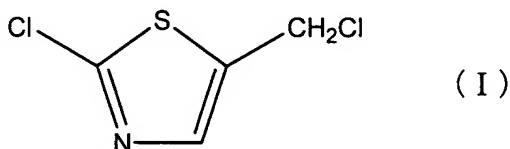


### Amendments to the Claims

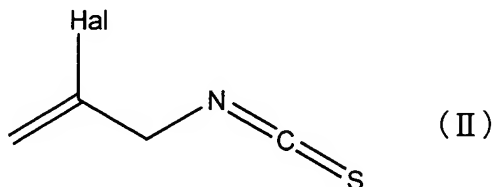
**1. (Original)** A process for purifying 2-chloro-5-chloromethyl-1,3-thiazole represented by the formula (I):



by distillation of a crude product thereof, comprising treating the crude product with a lower alcohol before the distillation.

**2. (Original)** The process for purifying 2-chloro-5-chloromethyl-1,3-thiazole according to claim 1, wherein the treatment with the lower alcohol is carried out by adding the lower alcohol to the crude product of 2-chloro-5-chloromethyl-1,3-thiazole, followed by stirring.

**3. (Currently amended)** The process for purifying 2-chloro-5-chloromethyl-1,3-thiazole according to claim 1-~~or~~2, wherein the crude product of 2-chloro-5-chloromethyl-1,3-thiazole is a reaction mixture or a residue obtained by distilling the solvent from the reaction mixture, wherein the reaction mixture is obtained by reacting a 2-halogenoallyl isothiocyanate represented by the general formula (II):



(wherein Hal represents a chlorine atom or a bromine atom) with a chlorinating agent in the presence of a solvent.

**4. (Original)** The process for purifying 2-chloro-5-chloromethyl-1,3-thiazole according to claim 3, wherein the crude product of 2-chloro-5-chloromethyl-1,3-thiazole is a residue obtained by distilling the solvent from the reaction mixture.

**5. (Original)** The process for purifying 2-chloro-5-chloromethyl-1,3-thiazole according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the lower alcohol is methanol.

**6. (Currently amended)** The process for purifying 2-chloro-5-chloromethyl-1,3-thiazole according to any one of claims ~~3 to 5~~ or 4, wherein Hal is a chlorine atom.